

CAROLINA ACCESS HOSPITAL ADMITTING REQUIREMENT

The establishment of a continuous and comprehensive patient/provider relationship is an essential component of Carolina ACCESS. Therefore, Carolina ACCESS (CA) primary care providers (PCPs) are required to establish and maintain hospital admitting privileges or have a formal arrangement with another physician or group for the management of inpatient hospital admissions that addresses the needs all enrollees or potential enrollees. If the CA practice does not admit patients and provide age-appropriate inpatient hospital care at a hospital that participates with the North Carolina Medicaid program, then the *Carolina ACCESS Hospital Admitting Agreement* form must be submitted to DMA Provider Services to address this requirement for participation. To ensure a complete understanding between both parties and continuity of coverage among providers, Carolina ACCESS has adopted the *Carolina ACCESS Hospital Admitting Agreement* form, which serves as the written agreement between the two parties. **IF the Carolina ACCESS provider has entered into a formal arrangement for inpatient services, this form must be completed by both parties, and the applicant must submit the original form with the application for participation or when a change occurs regarding the provider's management of inpatient hospital admissions.**

Note: A *formal arrangement* is defined as a voluntary agreement between the Carolina ACCESS primary care provider and the agreeable physician/group. The agreeable party is committing in writing to admit and coordinate medical care for the Carolina ACCESS enrollee throughout the inpatient stay.

The following Carolina ACCESS requirements regarding inpatient hospital care must be met:

1. Under the conditions stated above, the CA PCP must provide inpatient hospital care, or have a signed *Carolina ACCESS Hospital Admitting Agreement* form on file at DMA.
2. All ages of the provider's CA enrollees or potential enrollees must be covered by the inpatient hospital care or formal arrangement for inpatient hospital care or a combination of the two.
3. If the *Carolina ACCESS Hospital Admitting Agreement* form is utilized, the Agreement(s) must be between the CA PCP and one or more of the following:
 - a physician
 - a group practice
 - a hospitalist group
 - a physician call group

Note: The above providers must be enrolled as NC Medicaid providers, but it is not necessary that they be enrolled as Carolina ACCESS providers. Admissions through unassigned hospital-based call groups do not meet this requirement.

4. Admitting privileges or the formal arrangement for inpatient hospital care must be maintained at a hospital that is within a distance of thirty (30) miles or forty-five (45) minutes drive time from the CA PCP's practice.

Note: If there is no hospital that meets the above geographical criteria, *the hospital geographically closest to the CA PCP's (Contractor's) practice will be accepted.*

5. Exception may be granted in cases where it is determined the benefits of a provider's participation outweigh the provider's inability to comply with this requirement.

Note: For more information refer to the *Agreement for Participation as a Primary Care Provider in North Carolina's Patient Access and Coordinated Care Program*, Section IV, 6.4.

Questions regarding hospital admitting privileges may be directed to DMA Managed Care by calling 919-857-4022.

**Division of Medical Assistance
Provider Services
1985 Umstead Drive – 2501 Mail Service Center – Raleigh, N.C. 27699-2501
919-857-4017
www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dma**

Carolina ACCESS Hospital Admitting Agreement/Formal Arrangement

This form is to be completed only if the Carolina ACCESS (CA) Primary Care Provider (PCP) does not provide inpatient hospital care that addresses the needs of the CA enrollees or potential enrollees.

**Carolina ACCESS Primary Care Provider or Applicant:
(First Party Section)**

CA PCP Applicant Name: _____ CA Provider Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Contact Person: _____ Telephone Number: _____

To ensure a complete understanding between both parties and continuity of coverage among providers, Carolina ACCESS has adopted the Carolina ACCESS Hospital Admitting Agreement/Formal Arrangement form. This form serves as a formal written agreement established between the two parties as follows:

- The Carolina ACCESS Primary Care Provider is privileged to refer Carolina ACCESS patients to the second party for hospital admission. The second party is agreeing to treat and administer to the medical needs of these patients while they are hospitalized.
- The second party will arrange coverage for Carolina ACCESS enrollee admissions during their vacations.
- Either party may terminate this agreement at any time by giving written 30 days advance notice to the other party or by mutual agreement.
- The Carolina ACCESS Primary Care Provider will notify Carolina ACCESS in writing of any changes to or terminations of this agreement.
- The Carolina ACCESS Primary Care Provider will provide the second party with the appropriate payment authorization number.

**Physician and/or Group Agreeing to Cover Hospital Admissions For
Above Carolina ACCESS Primary Care Provider Applicant:
(Second Party Section)**

Physician/Group Name: _____ Medicaid Provider Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Specialty: _____ Ages Admitted: _____

Hospital Affiliation(s) and Location(s): _____

Contact Person: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____